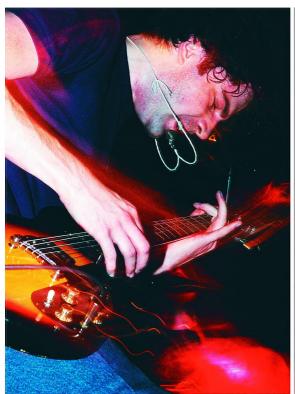
## THE GATEWAY

volume XCVI number 18 + the official student newspaper at the university of alberta + www.gateway.ualberta.ca + tuesday, 15 november, 2005



MICHAELINS

STRUTTING THEIR STUFF Local artiste, rockstar and gadabout Raymond Biesinger rocked the stage with both guitar and whistle last Thursday, when his band the Vertical Struts released their CD. Few were injured in the rocksplosion.

### U of A scientist given 'worst job' title

Popular Science magazine ranks Peter Kershaw's job as one of ten most terrible

SCOTT LILWALL

For many people, a bad day at work conjures up images of hellish commutes, overbearing bosses and annoying co-workers. But for one U of A researcher, who has recently been recognized as having one of the worst jobs in science, thoughts of polar bears, deerflies and frostbite might be just as likely.

For the past five years, Peter Kershaw, associate professor of earth and atmospheric science, has been collecting data on climate change in Churchill, Manitoba—a job that has earned him the eighth spot on *Popular Science* magazine's annual list of the ten worst scientific jobs.

"I think I was just above semenwasher and orangutan pee-collector, or something like that," said Kershaw.

or something like that, said kershaw. Kershaw has been studying the effects of climate change in northern Manitoba, specifically the melting of permafrost and the reduction of tundra. Of particular concern is the melting of the permafrost in areas of predominantly peat soil. As the peat is thawed, it begins to decompose, a process that releases carbon dioxide

and methane, gases that both contribute to climate change, Kershaw explained.

"What happens when the permafrost melts and this organic material—which to this point has been in stasis, held in frost so that it hasn't been affected by decomposition what happens when that melts? You enhance the greenhouse gases even further and you have positive feedback where greater warming occus, more permafrost melts [and there's] greater decomposition of that organic matter," he said,

PLEASE SEE BADJOB • PAGE 2

## Athabasca University says goodbye to CAUS

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA

As the struggle to have student voices represented in Alberta continues, the province's main student lobbying body has become 36 000 members smaller

The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS), which lobbies on key postsecondary issues, has, until recently, represented 80 000 students. But with the departure of one of its member universities, its student membership has nearly halved. The Athabasea University Students'

The Athabasca University Students' Union (AUSU) ceased to be a part of CAUS on 1 November, leaving three remaining students' unions, those of the University of Alberta, University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge, to continue their lobbying efforts.

However, according to Samantha Power, CAUS Vice-Chair and U of A Students' Union Vice-President (External), AUSU's departure may be for the best.

"It could actually be a benefit for both organizations that they decided to leave [CAUS]," Power said.

CAUS attempts to operate on a basis of consensus in order to present a unified front when dealing with the provincial government, Power explained. But Athabase, University (AU), an online institution created by the government of Abbert in 1970 to focus on distance education, had a significantly different mandate than other CAUS members, sparking the basis for senaration.

Power explained that AUSU's focus on ensuring that the proper quality standards were set up for distance education wasn't a priority for the three other universities in the province that are still members of CAUS, as they are focused primarily on affordability and accessibility of education.

"[The AUSU] can now focus on what's best for their students and [the remaining members of CAUS] can focus on what's best for our students based on our different situations," said Power.

"In the end, we might come to a better understanding and achievement of our goals because of the separation." PLEASE SEE CAUS + PAGE 4

## Reforms fix problems in graduate student politics

CHLOÉ FEDIO

After years of problems in the organization, the Graduates Students' Association (GSA) has finally instituted some reforms aimed at bringing it back onto its feet.

Since 2000, there have been nine resignations from executive positions in the GSA and last year, only three of the six executive positions were filled during the annual elections, taking two subsequent run-off elections to fill the remaining positions.

On 7 November, the GSA held a general meeting to voe on the elimination of the Vice-President (Student Services) and the Vice-President (Finance and Administration), and the creation of a new position, the Vice-President (Operations and Services), to bring the total number of sexcutives from six down to five. This recommendation was brought forward by the Committee to Review Institutional Structure (CRIS), a group assembled last year to look at the problems in the GSA. The approved changes will be reflected in next year's executive.

"We have a full executive right now and, miraculously, we haven't had any resignations yet, which was one of the original things that prompted us to look at this; why are so many people resigning?" said Luke Harris, a member of the CRIS and a third-year returning GSA councilor.

"Our hope is that by streamlining the executive, we'll be able to increase the efficiency and the effectiveness of the administrative level of the organization. We've also created an office manager position to take charge of the day-to-day positions," Harris explained.

GSA President Toks Bakinson added that, by reducing an executive position in the organization, the funds from that executive salary will be redistributed among the other executives to offer a "living wage" for the positions, which require full-time commitment.

"Next year is going to be a transition year," Bakinson said. "It's hard to tell how it's going to go, because it's something new, and everyone is going to be adjusting to new changes."

Harris emphasized that the new policies will not immediately solve the GSA's problems, and that it could take a number of years for the changes to take the organization in the desired distortion.

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### Football's sad demise

The Bears football team climbed the CanWest mountain, but couldn't get past Saskatchewan ... again.

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### Comedy on the spot

Chris Craddock of Rapid Fire Theatre explains the ins and outs of the funny business of improv comedy.

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NEWS tuesday, 15 november, 2005

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re burned directly to plates to be mounted on the vinting press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, nd weights of Penixe, Kepker, Joanna, and Aroma. The Asnatoban is the Gateway's sister paper. The Gatewa pames of choice are Burnout: Revenge and NHI. 94.

#### contributors

### Rated 8th worst in science, job not so bad: Kershaw

The current project in Manitoba is also looking at how the warm ing weather is causing the tree line to move farther north. Since ice and snow reflect double the solar radiation than treetons, as the trees proliferate. more heat is absorbed into the ground, leading to further warming. Studies on how quickly this process is happening and what factors are involved are another part of Kershaw's work.

The conditions up in that area of Manitoba can be quite nasty, Kershaw explained, and part of the reason his job is deemed "worst." His studies are aided by the Earthwatch Institute, an organization that recruits and enables volunteers to act as research assistants on environmental projects.

Those collecting data in the summer have to contend with the large number of flies and mosquitoes, while the winter brings with it cold weather and the threat of polar bears. Even so, Kershaw points out that many of his volunteers choose to spend more time in the area than the ten days the spend collecting data. Visits to many of the region's historical sites and whalewatching tours are favoured activities.

For Kershaw, the most discouraging part of his job is losing data to unforeen events; more than the cold,



IT'S A DIRTY JOB, BUT SOMEONE'S GOTTA DO IT Peter Kershaw has taken up the challenge of the Manitoban wilderness.

problems. Snowshoe hares seem to be particularly fond of chewing through wires, and Kershaw has lost some automated equipment to polar bear attacks. However, having dealt with black bears and grizzly bears during previous studies in the Mackenzie

region, he is unfazed. "To some extent, I've got bragging rights, because I say that I'm probably the only researcher doing this kind of work who has had his stations toasted by all three species of bear," he joked.

Despite the obstacles, Kershaw doesn't think his work is all that bad. "I love what I do. I wouldn't trade it

for anything else." In addition to being recognized for having one of the worst jobs in

ulating me on, PI of the Year, or one of the worst jobs in science?" I'm never sure," said Kershaw.

the Year, beating out scientists around the world. Even so, people tend to focus more on the Popular Science article.
"They say, 'Hey, congratulations,' and I'm thinking, 'What is he congrat-

as Earthwatch's Principle Investigator of

### STREETERS

Japan is Canada's third-largest trading partner after the United States and China. In light of these economic ties, Canada is moving towards creating a free trade agreement with Japan.

What do you think of a free trade agreement between Canada and Japan?



Mark Prokopiul Science IV







Engineering III

Free trade is always a good idea. I mean, Japan's economy is going stronger than the States is—I don't know that for sure, but what I think I know is Japan's doing it right. They're leading in technology, like en years ahead of everybody else. So, I think it's a good idea; an uneducated person thinks it's a good idea.

I think it's good if we're not so focused on one country, like huge trading partners with the US or China. I think if we diversify a little bit, we don't have to as reliant on the US.

I think opening up any type of international trade is beneficial to the world, so long as it doesn't hurt home industry in Free trade with Janan? First of all I'm in engineering and I don't read-I don't know what's going on at all. But, I think it would be alright. Maybe [Japan could be] a new possible trader for softwood lumber ... the States is kind of being bitchy about stuff, so it would probably be better to expand our horizons,

Compiled and photographed by Chloé Fedio and Iris Tse

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WASTE OF TIME SU VP (Operation and Finance) Jason Tobias thinks referendum questions are bogging down Council.

### Referendum questions up in the air

DIE Board considers twelve petition questions deemed 'absurd' by Council

JAKE TROUGHTON

An upcoming decision by the Students' Union's Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement (DIE) Board could have a major impact on the March SU general election and the ability of students to take plebiscite or referendum questions to petition.

tions to petition. Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics student Chris Jones appealed to DiB Board, the SU's judical branch, after Students Council ruled at its 1 November meeting that twelve potential petition questions he had submitted were out of order. A hearing was held last Monday, 7 November, but as of yesterday a decision had not yet been released.

At the Council meeting, Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Jason Tobias rose on a point of order, arguing that the questions were proposed in bad faith to waste Council's time, and that based on an implied limitation within Bylaw 2400, which governs the petition process, the questions should be thrown out. Speaker Gregory Harlow accepted the point of order, and when the ruling was challenged, Council reaffirmed the decision to strike the questions from the order paper.

"What I'm suggesting is that contained in Bylaw 2400 is a clause that says, in effect, that where a member submits a question in bad faith, those questions may be disregarded," said Harlow at last Monday's hearing.

"Now, for a literalist, what I'm suggesting is an abomination, because clearly there is no black-and-white text reading of the bylaw that says that."

Harlow argued that it was appropriate to read the limitations into the bylaw, because when Council passed it, it couldn't have intended to allow "an endless stream of abusive questions" to bog down Council.

"What did Students' Council intend by enacting the direct democracy provisions?" he asked. "Did it intend that this process be utterly bogged down by superficial and abusive motions, or did it intend to provide a legitimate mechanism to allow members to bring questions directly to the student hody?"

Jones had submitted the intent of his questions to the Bylaw Committee, as required, and the committee drafted questions and sent them to Council. The questions were submitted over two

meetings, though they all came before Council during the same meeting, and were on a wide range of issues, including some that were labelled "absurd" by some councilors. But Jones argued that it was not his twelve petition questions that were wasting the time of the committee, but the protests of Tobias and Harlow.

"At the meeting when they drafted he eight subsequent questions, the vast majority of the time was spen in wrangling brought up by [Tobias and Haflow] over whether the questions should be dealt with at all, not with drafting the questions;" Jones said. The questions were drafted in a period of about 15 minutes once they left the room and stopped their haranguing."

"Whether you think the question is silly, or you think the outcome would be stupid, is immaterial. That's for the voters to decide."

> CHRIS JONES, AG/FOR STUDENT, OUESTION SUBMITTER

One of the questions asks if students support the elimination of the plebiscite and referenda process, while another seeks the elimination of all dedicated fees currently collected by the SU (including the Gateway Student Journalism Fund), and one would give DIE Board the authority to "examine and bring into compliance the legislation of the Students' Union, the University of Alberta, with appli-cable provincial legislation." Another would have students directly elect both undergraduate representatives on the University's Board of Governors to overlapping two-year terms; at present, one is elected to a one-year term, while the SU President fills the other

There is also a question that would forbid the SU from referring to itself by anything but its full legal name (The Students' Union, the University of Alberta), one that seeks a mandatory hot lunch program at a cost of no more than \$60 per term, and one that would establish hourly transportation between Campus Saint-Jean and the Augustana campus in Camrose with

"a mandatory fee not to exceed one bicycle per day."

Perhaps the most contentious question asks if students support establishing "Frisbeetarianism" as the SU's official religion, and collecing a mandatory ten per cent tithe to support "Frisbeetarian" activities. Frisbeetarianism" is a parody religion, popularized be George Carlin, which holds that when people die, their souls get stuck on a roof.

At the DIB Board meeting, Harlow argued that the nature of these questions is clearly absurd, but Jones responded that, under Bylaw 2400, Council's role is not to determine whether a petition question press a good idea, but simply whether it is clear, legal and accurately reflective of the intent of the student proposing it.

"[The Frisbeetarianism question] is certainly not illegal; there's nothing saying the Students' Union can't adopt an official religion, and the Students' Union has taxation authority," he said. "Whether you think the question is silly, or you think the outcome would be stupid, is immaterial. That's for the voters to decide."

Harlow argued, however, that DIE Board's mandate to "make the rules put in place by Students' Council function" give it leeway to allow for striking down the questions despite there being no explicit clause in the bylaw that they violate.

"I think from time to time it may be necessary for DIE Board to move beyond the strict literalist interpretation of what the rules may say, and import some meaning implied by their overall instructions," he said.

In his submission to DIE Board, Jones asked that the Board either find that his questions stand approved by Council, or require Council to examine them individually based solely on legality and reflection of his intent, as set out in Bylaw 2400. If any or all of the questions are ultimately approved, he intends to attempt to collect enough signatures to get all of them on the ballor.

"It believe that students should have the ability to at least decide whether they want those questions to appear on the ballot," he said. "I concede that some of them are obviously less likely than others to be sufficiently interesting to students to get the needed signatures."

DIE Board is expected to release a decision sometime this week.



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### Athabasca leaves CAUS on good terms

Online university wants to increase desirability of distance learning, no longer shares the same goals as province's campus-driven postsecondary instituitions

CAUS \* CONTINUED FROM PAGE:

Tamra Ross-Low, the AUSU's communications coordinator, further explained that, as the first Canadian university accredited in the United States, AU has become a pioneer in its field and has an obligation to raise the profile of distance education to a visible postsecondary alternative.

"Alot of people still confuse distance education with what they call correspondence school in the United States, and it's not the same thing." Low said, stressing that a distance education can be just as academically challenging as on-campus learning.

In addition to the recent American accreditation, an exponential growth

rate has placed strains on AU, creating internal issues that are foreign to other members of CAUS, Low explained.

"[Leaving CAUS is] just a matter of limited resources and an awful lot to do."

TAMRA ROSS-LOW, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR, ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY SU

"AU has been maintaining ten per cent growth for about four years now,

which is absolutely gargantuan," Low said, explaining that most universities deal with a one per cent growth

rate.

"[Leaving CAUS is] just a matter of limited resources and an awful lot to do," Low further explained.

Despite the separation, Low said that AUSU is very receptive to the idea of working alongside CAUS members in the future on issues such as lower tuition, better student loan programs and better funding for universities.

"A lot of the things that CAUS is lobbying for benefit everybody," Low said. "[AUSU] fully expect[s] to be supporting those initives as CAUS undertakes them."

### GSA reforms need time to sink in: Harris

GSAREFORMS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We were looking at ten years of problems," Harris said, pointing to the CRIS report that compiled a number of problems that arose over the years.

Currently, the GSA has 191 seats available for student councilors, something that Harris said breeds a sense of complacency in the organization, causing low attendance because of the large number.

"Personally, I would like to see it reduced to about 80. ... I think that 191 is a lot. The undergrads have far more students than the grad students, and they have 42 elected representatives on Council," he said.

The meeting that passed the reforms into law was open to all graduate students, but Bakinson said the exact number of students that voted is unknown.

"We didn't keep a head count, because we used the Tory lecture, so

it was kind of hard to count a hundred and something people," she said. Though Harris admits that apathy for student politics is a huge problem—especially for graduate students



NO MORE RESIGNATIONS Grad student Luke Harris has high hopes for the GSA.

who are consumed with their studies—he said the reforms are taking the GSA in a positive direction.

"I'm excited about the changes that are happening, and that's saying something for somebody who is as

cynical as I am," Harris said. "I really hope to see after I graduate that—in whatever form it appears in—there are good things happening in the Graduate Students Association at the U of A."

### CAMPUS CRIMEBEAT

Compiled by Amanda Ash

#### CLIMBING THE STAIRWAY TO SLEEP

On Sunday, 6 November, Campus 5-0 received a call that a hobo-like male was sleeping in a HUB mall stairwell. Security members arrived on the scene and found the male to be intoxicated. After several attempts, the man was finally woken and subsequently arrested for public intoxication. After a quick background check, it was determined that napper had been caught by 5-0 in the past for sleeping and loitering in campus buildings. He had a criminal history of violence and property-related crimes The slumbering suspect was issued a summons for trespassing and directed off University property, hopefully for the last time

#### SLEEPING ON THE JOB

On Tuesday, 8 November, Campus 5-0 received a complaint from the faculty of extension that an individual was slumbering in a men's washroom stall. Constables attended the area and recognized the sleepy male as being previously trespassed from University property. He was then directed off campus and asked to find his own bed.

#### PANHANDLING PERPETRATORS

On Wednesday, 9 November, a 5-o condescription of the complaint regarding a male and female panhandling near the washrooms on the main floor of the Fine Arts Ruiding. The 20-year-old female had outstanding warrants for her arrest and was turned over to the EPS, while he was directed off campus.

#### NIGHT CAP

Campus-Soreccived a call that an unconcious male was laying somewhere na-112 Street and 86 Ave on Wednesday, 9 November. Constables arrived on the scene, located the troubled man, and found him to be so intoxicated he could barely stand. He had no University affiliation and there was an outstanding warrant for his arrest. The durulard was then trespassed from University property and turned over to the FPS.

#### MEN ON A MISSION

On Friday, 11 November, a Campus Courty constable observed two curicoastly old-looking males wandering around the south end of HLB Mall. The two males, aged 42 and 46 years, had no University affiliation and had been previously trespassed from the grounds Both loiterers were found to have outstanding warrants and were issued provincial summons for trespassing before being turned over to the EPS.

#### STUFF-TOUCHING EMERGENCY

Two vehicles parked at Foote Field on

Saturday, 12 November fell victim to criminal break-ins. There was no damage done to the vehicles, but various valuable items, including CDs, sporting equipment and clothing, were pilfered. The estimated amount of property stolen from the care exceeds \$500, and Campus Security's increasing their presence in the area to avoidsimilar incidents in the future.

#### RANDOM ACTS OF VIOLENCE

On Sunday, 13 November, a female University student allegedly assaulted another student during the course of an argument. The femme fatale is now facing charges under the Code of Student Behavior.

#### TRAIPSING TRAMP

On Sunday, 13 November, a 5-0 constable noticed a suspicious male lurking around the south end of HUB Mall. The perp was found to have several outstanding criminal warrants and was promptly arrested. He was then turned over to FPS.

There is a problem with thefts from vehicles throughout the city. If you spot suspicious activity anywhere on University property, please contact. Campus Security Services at 492-595. Though it may seem obvious, please note that the chances of a vehicle being targeted for theft is greatly reduced by not leaving valuables aimlessly stream across the floor or seats of your car.

## **OPINION**

### Where there's smoke, there's questionable funding

IT WAS RECENTLY ANNOUNCED that the University of Alberta has approved a \$1.5 million research grant from the US Smokeless Tobacco Company (USSTC) for a new faculty member, Dr Carl Phillips. While this is only the latest addition in a series of controversitial partnerships on campus that includes the infamous diamond giant De Beers and Coca-Cola, this particular grant from the makers of Copenhagen, 8koal and other brands of chewing tobacco still raises many evebrows.

Though the grant is described as an "unrestricted gift" and that USSTC "did not influence the content or see the study results" of Phillips latest publication, it's still difficult to believe that the money doesn't come with strings or expectations. It's especially disconcerting when Phillips, an associate professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences, believes that chewing tobacco is a safe substitute for smoking. He also claims that oral cancer, the disease frequently associated with chewing tobacco, is "mostly a myth." A quick search of available scientific journals has shown that Phillips is a minority in this opinion.

To this point in history, there have been only three means of avoiding smoking-related hung cancer: never sarting to smoke, quitting, and avoiding smoky environments. However, what Philips is trying to suggest is that there is a fourth choice—smokeless products, like chewing tobacco—and that these products are a less toxic alternative for smokers who cannot, or will not, ouit.

This is a highly controversial position, as the latest research shows that smokeless to bacco is linked to a compromised amitoxidant defence system, and long-term inflammation of the liver, lung and kidneys. Also, smokeless to bacco is classified by the International Agency for Research on Cancer as a carcinogen, causing pancreatic cancer in addition to ord cancer. Most research indicates that smokeless to bacco is hardly a harmless substitute, especially when one considers that there are safer and better means to quit smoking. In addition, the perceived "safety" of these smokeless products might pursue some smokers to switch to other forms of trobacco consumption in lieu of quitting altogether, thus causing more harm than good.

Understandably, the validity of Phillips' claim is considered dubious. Many health experts on campus are ready to attack Phillips' position, including U of A dentistry professor Steve Patterson. But the bilgest problem in this scenario isn't the nature or the results of Phillips' research on smokeless tobacco—it's that his research is funded by a tobacco company. As an immunology student with some laboratory

As an immunology student with some laboratory background, I clearly understand that scientific immovation can't happen without the aid of private and public funding. There's little doubt that much research would cease if there were no money to purchase sophisticated instruments or disposable Eppendorf tubes. But that still doesn't mean scientists are free to accept whatever money comes their way:

Unlike many public health departments at other universities, such as Harvard and Johns Hopkins, the U of A doesn't have a policy in place that prohibits grants from tobacco companies. In addition, the ethics board of the University is astisfied with the perimeters of Phillips' grant. But perhaps the University should seriously reconsider its existing policy and guidelines.

I don't doubt that Phillips, who received his PhD from Harvard University, is an educated and intelligent scientist, and I don't question his methods of research. But funding from controversial companies such as the USSTC or advocacy groups can also seriously undermine the position and professionalism of the researcher. The possibility of conflict of interest will constantly overshadow the validity of the researcher, and may cause more damage than harm on the researcher's findings. Besides, universities have no business accepting research grants from an industry that has for decades distorted and manipulated research to deceive the public about the dangers of smoking and secondhand smoke

Because of this, the money can hardly be considered as no strings attached.

IRIS TSE Design & Production Editor

### **LETTERS**

#### Canada shouldn't deport Munyaneza—it could lead to his death

Regarding Patrick Ross' 8 November article, "Desire Munyaneza should be deported," indeed, it was the immigration and refugee system

If Mr Munyaneza is tried in Rwanda of these crimes (genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes), he could be put to death, if convicted. There has been no extradition request, however.

According to Canada's Extradition Act, the Justice Minister may refuse to extradite someone on the grounds that he may be subject to cruel and unjust punishment. It seems that sending Mr Munyaneza to Rwanda to be tried and potentially executed would be an inhumane decision on behalf of Canada.

ANGELA GIANNOTTI Montréal, Québec

### Rape isn't funny, even in a comic

I'm not sure where to start, whene goes I was wondering when sexual violence was going to stop being funny (Re: "Wich Micht," 3 November]? I mean, if this was the first time that rape was the punchine of a Gateway comic, I wouldn't be writing, as evidenced by the fact that I never have before. But, for serious, it's not even like it's part of the comic and then there's a joke that's actually funny—it's the rape that's actually funny—it's the rape that's actually the punchline!

I don't get it. Do I need to pull in the statistics (2s per cent of college women are raped by the time they graduate; the majority of women experience sexual violence in their lifetimes; nearly all women report curtailing their behaviour because of a fear of rape).

I guess, in a sense, that's not your problem. And it was just a comic, and I didn't have to read it, but if the punch line of the joke was equally racist, I doubt you would have run it. In conclusion, please stop running comics that think rape is a joke. It's misogynistic, ignorant and lame.

EMILY JOHNSON

### NDP leader Jack Layton rad, very rad—and innovative, too

What a relief it is that there is one party leader in Parliament with the capacity to think outside the box. Jack Layton has come up with a sersible proposal to facilitate the workings of Parliament for the time being, yet to express the clear will of the majority of elected MPs (and much of the population, if a wayer) that an election should be held at the earliest reasonable time.

The primary requirement of a candidate for the position of prime minister is the ability to lead. Leadership is about modelling behaviour, inspiring a vision, and enabling others to work toward achieving that vision. Far from leading, Conservative leader Steven Harper has vacillated miserably on how to handle a crisis

GREAT CHOKES IN SPORTS HISTORY



of confidence in the ruling Liberals and Paul Martin.

While Layton was trying to pesuade Marithacet decisiely topportect the public healthcare system. Harper was whining at the NDP about supporting the Coverment. When the NDP decided that the Liberals weren't really prepared to flight for healthcare, Harper and his curious Euetrane, Rico Cubeboois leader Gilles Ducoppe, wagged their collective fingers at Layton, at best batting him to introduce a nonconfidence motion, and at worst questioning his integrity.

Harper could have taken the

same initiative as Jack Layton did; that would have demonstrated leadership Instead he exhibited a confused mixture of coyness and political chicanery. I hope the electorate will remember the contrast and make sure that Mr Layton is given sufficient support to ensure that his straightforward contribution to the politics of Canada con tinues. He has said himself that it is irrelevant whether the NDP become the governing party. What is impor tant is that the NDP can continue to use its position in Parliament to get things done for Canadians.

As for Mr Harper, leader of the "official" opposition in Parliament, his contribution has been so insipid, that, apart from doctrinaire politics, he leaves his party with precious little to follow.

MARTY RYBIAK

### Don't sling mud, Aggies—throw feces instead

The current Pizzagate debate raging in the pages of the Cateway utterly astounks me. Aggies have embarrassed their forefathers by attempting to use the written word to settle a debate. If engineers really are pizza-stealing jerks, use the resources your degree affords you to get payabach.

Legend has it that past Aggies had brilliant problem-solving skills. They harnessed the lessons from the classroom and the field to unleash retribution in the form of liquid pig feces. The Jegend states that industrious Aggie students pumped the basement of the MechE building full of flquid pig poop.

Getting reative in solving disputes will certainly induce some creativity from engineering students. Their retribution will be a grand affair as they gain insight to practical engineering applications. The venting systems, plumbing and structural integrity of campus buildings will albe fair game.

A continuous retailation scenario could perpetuate into future generations; unless, of course, the Us Poli Sci students step in to reconcile the differences through the institution's diplomatic channels. In the future, leave the writing to Arts students.

> PATRICK STRATTON Arts III

#### Dead soldiers all die in the service of their country

Ben Cleland, your response is both uninformed and insulting to every member of the world's armed forces, including students at the U of A (Re: "Deaths of soldiers not all equal," 8 November).

Invoking Jesus as a cover for the facts lacking in your argument is inappropriate. God is the first recruit to both sides of any war, not a factual basis—If you want to test this theory, try submitting an assignment citing "because Im Christian" as your main proof. I find it interesting that both you and President Bush believe Jesus is supporting your point of view.

Soldiers fight for their respective countries, not NATO, as you mention. I point this out to give an example of one of the many gross fallacies in your letter, and to demonstrate the main problem with your argument. NATO (the UN, the former Warsaw Pact, the former League of Nations, etc.) is an organization of politicians from around the world. Politicians, not soldiers. If and when they decide to go to war, it is the politicians who make the decision, not the soldiers. The "immoral hypocrisy" you cite rests with politicians, not soldiers.

When a soldier, sailor or airman signs up, they agree that their government can send their ass anywhere in the world for the protection of their own country, and the global community as a whole. Since WW2—the date you seem to see as the last "just" war—America has been involved in countless military actions that involved protecting a people from an oppressive government or wardord.

How is the KIA on Utah Beach different from the one in Korea, Vietnam, Mogadishu or Iraq? All signed up to protect their country. All were sent by politicians.

To argue that one dead soldier is better than another dead soldier is to completely miss the point. They died because their country called on them.

Period. Respect them, all of them, because they died knowing that someday someone would call their sacrifice void of meaning, but died anyway.

KATHRYN BOWEN

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@aatewayu.alberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication. 6 OPINION tuesday, 15 november, 2005

### Prosperity cheques should be both bigger and better



CYRUS DASTOURI "Alaska and Norway have 'resource funds' that put our measly \$400 to shame. Similar to our Heritage Fund, their governments invest a certain percentage of the royalties received from the oil and gas revenues. The difference is the money goes into the pockets of citizens first, instead of the government."

January's much closer now that were in November. Several weeks closer than when it was in, say, October. And it seems the closer we get, the more I hear about how our "prosperity cheques" are only a couple of months away. However, instead of being elated like most people are when they hear about their cheques coming from the government. I'm just angry. These rebate cheques are had policy, and only demonstrate that our government is fiscally inept. They're just ridling the oil and gas gravy train, speeding on a course to nowhere.

Now I know what you're thinking.
"You're getting \$400 tax free, and
you're complaining about it? What an
idiot." If that's the case, you misunderstand the problem. I'm not complaining because I'm receiving money from
the government, I'm complaining
because I'm not getting my money's
worth.

The problem is that our elected officials seem to have so much money that no one knows what to do with it. Our government is throwing an estimated \$1.4 billion into this rebate program, despite legitimate concerns about crumbling infrastructure, ailing healthcare, overcrowded schools, and high university tuttion. Even if you disagree with spending money in one of those specific areas, the policy the government implemented is so financially irresponsible that it can give the federal gun registry a run for its money. Alberta is in a fiscal situation that the rest of the provinces and terrilories, and even the federal government, can only dream of. Yet, in the past few years, instead of seeing responsible policies, we've been settling on cutbacks, one-time spending, government handouts and bribes for our votes. Just for the record, I get enough of that from the federal government; I don't need it from our provincial government as well.

So where do we go from here? As a start, we can look to our economists, who have almost begged the government to use more rational ideas, such as placing the money into the Alberta Heritage Fund or creating a permanent fund for relates. Briefly, the Alberta Heritage Fund is a "rainy-day fund," where the government invests some of its oil and gas revenues. The interest from these investments is used to protect the fund from inflation, and the surplus goes into the government's coffers

So what's so good about giving my cheque to the fund's Simply this: our finite revenue from our finite resources is transformed into renewable revenue for Albertans, continuing to grow even when the oil and gas is gone. The trick is not to spend more than what the fund earns from interest. It doesn't really spell out money in our pockets directly, but at least it might keep our taxes down and social program spending up.

Alternatively, it's been suggested that

the government starts a fund specifically designed for continuous rebates. That would make sense, wouldn't it? Especially since that's what the government seems so gung-ho about.

If you think such a policy is unheard of, think again. Alaka and Norway have "resource funds" that put our measly \$4400 to shame. Similar to our Heritage Fund, their governments invest a certain percentage of the royalties received from the oil and gas revenues. The difference is the money goes into the pockets of citizens first, instead of the government. Alakams and Norwegians have received cheques that are, at times, well over \$1000, depending on how well the fund does. Why shouldn't Albertans demand the same kind of performance?

By now you might be just as angry as I am. The provincial governmen doesn't want to get its act together and turn my \$400 into \$1000. Since when did this province have a stupidity surcharge? So what can we do about it? First, take your money and spend it more wisely than the government that gave it to you. Second, you can write a letter to your member of parliament. Finance Minister Shirley McClellan, and Premier Ralph Klein to try to educate them in the error of their ways Let's take the controls behind this oil and gas gravy train and try to drive it somewhere instead of nowhere Otherwise, we're getting \$400 and a whole lot of nothing.



PHOTOILLUSTRATION: MATT FREI

IT COULD BE BIGGER The government should be re-investing its revenues.

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OPINION THE GATEWAY + volume XCVI number 18

### University should start digging deep



Thanks to a recent Lotto 6/49 jackpot a bunch of people in Camrose have the ridiculous task of finding ways to spend \$54 million in the town of Camrose. Now, if I had \$54 million worth of green and red paper, the first thing I would do is buy the Calgary Flames, mail Jarome Iginla straight to hell, and then run the franchise into the ground and move them to El Paso. I'd also make sure the moving vans had pictures of middle fingers painted on the sides when they skipped town But, for a slightly cheaper option, a measly 5 million guid, there's Cold War City, UK.

Cold War City is a complex covering 240 acres in Wiltshire that comes complete with 60 miles worth of roads, its own train station the Rose and Crown pub, and even a BBC broadcast centre. It's also 120 feet below ground.

Okay, so owning an uninhabited city on the other side of the Atlantic isn't a very plausible concept, but that doesn't lessen my desire for an under-ground city. Seeing as the campus skyline is becoming fairly crowded, and that nothing short of an Iron Curtain will keep our few remaining green spaces from being converted into towering marvels of structural engineering designed to pacify the ever-growing campus popula tion-take the renovation of Civil Engineering and the pending demolition of V-Wing as writing on the wall for Ouad-this makes me think that the University needs to start taking advice from those Cold War constructors and start building down, not up.

... the SU could put some money into the construction, find a cheap alternative spot with almost unlimited space, and give birth to RUG-the Room Under Ground.

Instead of a building soaring a hun dred feet into the sky, the University, city, province, country, independent donors, Students' Union and every one else who gets their name on the side of a building, classroom or overhead projector needs to build back to our roots, literally, and take it underground.

Think of the benefits of under ground lecture theatres; cooler in the summer, warmer in the winter, and perfect for EAS and SOILS classes An underground structure stretching from SUB to HUB and connecting everything in between would also provide comfortable travel between

classes for those afraid of the cold. those afraid of fresh air and those afraid of engineers storming across pedways to eat their pizza, as well as providing potentially secluded makeout spots for when the Ag/For atrium

Even the SU could benefit. Since the Powerplant is failing in large part due to its huge rent, the SU could put some money into the construction find a cheap alternative spot with almost unlimited space, and give birth to RUG-the Room Under Ground There could be an abundance of subsidized campus housing, without the worries of mattresses being thrown down stairwells or ninth-floor residents being thrown out of windows. It could even be dubbed sub-Lister or Lister Jr or Lister II: Attack of the Herpes Corporations could get involved: if Krusty Burger will go onto an offshore oil rig, they damn well will move into a radtastic campus bunker facility, and we would even be in contention for the filming of the next Bond movie Of course, since we're delving into the Earth, we may even get lucky, strike oil, get rich, die tryin', lower tuition, raise rvices and actually make it to the top of those MacLean's rankings that always put McGill or Toronto on top.

Just the prospect of studying in a school so cool they built a subterranean superworld should be enough to lure any potential students, professors, doctors or athletes. And if noth ing else, at least we'll have a safe haven should those rotten Commie hastards get any ideas.

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### University Webmail needs to pick it up



WIECZOREK

Lately. I've had a lot of time to do many things I haven't had the time to do in a while. Things like staring at the ceil-

ing, staring at the walls in Rutherford and staring at my crotch. You know why? It's because the U of A Webmail is so damn slow. I mean there's slow there's crippled, and then there's U of A Webmail When I came first registered at the

University and found out I would get my own spiffy ualberta e-mail account, I was pretty happy. Now everyone I e-mailed would instantly know that I'm a proud University of Alberta student, Lassumed Lwould be able to ditch my Hotmail account, and the high school cool along with it.

But now, if I need to e-mail some thing to myself, what do you think I use? Of course it's Hotmail. I once tried to do that with the University Webmail, but it took me a couple of minutes just to bring it up.

I don't know about everyone but sitting there waiting for that blank screen to load up is wasting precious minutes that I'll never get back. So I suggest the University IT department get their stuff together and speed things up

They have some message on the front stating, "We have been experiencing unprecedented system load on the Webmail servers in the last few weeks which has caused performance during peak hours to suffer. We have ordered more hardware to add to the Webmail cluster that will be here shortly. This addition/upgrade should greatly improve system while we make these improvements If you find that the performance is poor, please feel free to use the old Webmail system during peak hours to spread the load. Thank you for your patience." Do you think I care about your problems? No, I just want to read my e-mails right now.

In any case, the IT department should be ready for these types of things years in advance. Since everybody knows the University popula tion is exploding, maybe they should be buying hardware in advance to carry the load. It seems like they just got caught with their pants down.

I tried Gmail yesterday and was amazed at how fast it is. I wish the University would just use the same e-mail system that Google does. I'm sure Google would gladly reveal their secrets and license their systems to our University for a fee similar to what we're paying for some program that experienced on the web. If we really lead, maybe they'd even give it to us for free. Corporations are big on that kind of thing It seems that everything having to

do with the IT department sucks at the University right now. Don't even get me started on Bear Tracks. I thought some of my experiences were bad until I heard some other people telling so had that the SII had to save us all by buying a program that serves a similar called Bear Scat. Not only is Bear Scat much better in every single dimension, it was written by a firstyear student.

If first-year students can write better software than what our University is currently using, what does that say about our IT department and their software choices? These are problems that need to be fixed. My zipper just isn't that interesting.



Today's sack beating goes out to all the ladies out there who like to wear their hip low-rise pantaloons too low for my liking.

First of all, I must state that I am a lover of the fashionable bottoms. Not only are they the super comfy and ultra chic, but they also make my ass look a bit more rounded. And more attractive to the guys

Now, despite all the luscious charac teristics that low-rise pants give to our booties, they have to be worn properly in order to work their alluring magic.

According to some of my guy friends, wearing your pants so low that the pinnacle of your ass crack peeks out is not hot. No matter how cool or trendy you think you're being it's just disgusting. No guy-or girl that matter-enjoys watch ing some random girl show off that unspeakable part of her body

And the worst part of all is having to suffer through an hour-and-a-half class sitting behind some girl who thinks she's with it by having her cheeks overflow from the brim of her pants. Gross

So, girls, into the sack you go. And it you have any fashion sense, respect, or even decency, you'll pull up your pants before hunching over in the sack.

#### AMANDA ASH

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OPINION tuesday, 15 november, 2005



### Do your part—don't fuck assholes



ANDERSON

I'm a big fan of guys. Most of my close friends are guys. I'm aware of how awesome guys can be. That being said, there are a lot guys in the world

who are assholes. Though many people focus on what makes someone an asshole, the question that has always come to my mind is, what would Charles Darwin think? Obviously, if there are so many assholes in the world today. they must have an advantage in their environment; namely, relationships. When you break it down, the asshole survives and propagates because he's better adapted.

Asking someone out is a very scary proposition, a fact that most of you should be aware of. If you're asking out a great guy that you really like, extremely nervous. He might not think you're good enough for him or, because he has the body of a Greek god, already have a girlfriend. Thus, your odds of a "no" are pretty high. You go through every symptom of a lame love song, from sweaty palms to a loss of control over language, or your

An asshole, on the other hand, is much less stressful. No need to get nervous, since you aren't that invested Besides, he'll pretty much go out with anyone. Even if he already has a girlfriend, he might still say yes, since he's an asshole. It's win-win. Clearly, the first and necessary step in reproducing favours the asshole

Once in the relationship, the advantages pile up. With a nice boyfriend, you're always trying to figure out how to split up your time between your friends and his. Inevitably, both feel abandoned, and you begin to resent him for keeping you away, or them for not "respecting your love," or some other emotionally driven exclamation. This friction is not the kind that helps make babies.

### Breaking up with an asshole is like Mardi Gras and your birthday rolled into one.

But there's no fighting over whose friends you'll hang out with when you have an asshole boyfriend. You hate all his friends, and he probably won't call you anyway. You ships remain solid as a rock. In some cases they get stronger as your friends console you. When you do meet an asshole boyfriend, all he does is try to get into your pants. His success passes on the asshole trait to future generations.

In spite of all this, most women would say that they prefer dating nice guys, and would rather have their babies, if any babies at all. This is a valid point, but there's still one more

FTAA won't help South American countries

aspect of the relationship to consider The deciding factor is the break-up

However amicable the end is with a nice guy, you wonder why you couldn't make it work, and gain 15 pounds eating peanut M&Ms. You think you'll never find anyone else, and will be alone forever. Also, your friends are now his friends, and so you're alone in your depression. The women who like nice guys, then, do not find new mates as quickly as the vomen who date assholes

Breaking up with an asshole is like Mardi Gras and your birthday rolled into one. Everyone drinks to the point of awesome, and feels free to show their wares to anyone they want. Chances are, after breaking up with an asshole, a woman won't be off the market for long. There's no need to feel bad about anything. You couldn't make it work because he's an asshole. You know you could do better and that you'll find someone else. Best of all, your friends gather around you, and breathe a collective sigh of relief that they'll never see him again.

Women who date assholes are making a logical choice. They're not stressed out in approaching them, face few problems while in the relationship, and celebrate, instead of mourning, the end of the affair. As a result, the asshole trait stands a much better chance of being passed on.

If you don't like it, do your part ladies. Let's start an organization to keep nice guys around for future gen-erations by keeping assholes out of our pants. We'll show Darwin how to select the fittest

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MAUREEN BRINKER

the disgustingly rich in stately 5000square-foot homes equipped with Corinthian columns and pool houses, and the dismally poor in one-room shanties with tin roofs and no utilities, social equality is hard to find. Free trade was supposed to increase the quality of living for the citizens of participating countries, an expec tation which hasn't been met. The FTAA (Free Trade Agreement for the Americas) will in no way balance this social spectrum, especially for Latin and South America.

The dark side of nature is survival of the fittest. This usually means that the strong kill off the weak, or in the terms of modern society, that the rich exploit the poor. Fittingly, as a backdrop to the Summit of the Americas in Argentina, thousands of protesters who don't want the FTAA are ceremoniously ignored. Being at the top provides some advantages when it comes to making free trade agreements. Negotiating trade deals behind closed doors, with little input from citizens, but plenty from big corporations, is one of them. And what do big corporations like Nike want? Cheap labour with few labour laws, and no restri tions on the environment. Usually this is what they get.

From a company like Nike's perspective, when it comes to manufacturing, the cheaper the better. The FTAA might include over 25 countries, the majority of which are crippled with poverty and "Propping up the Americas with free trade would be like pimping out the exterior of a 1982 Ford Escort: tinted windows, a new exhaust system and a pumping stereo with a Pioneer decal on the back window will do nothing to hide the fading engine. These nations need a major overhaul ..."

healthy competition, what will result is a race to the bottom—who can provide the cheapest labour, the cheapest working conditions, the least environmental restrictions; a race that will only won by the corporate bigwig. Mexico is a place where the corpo-

rate bigwig is winning in monumental proportions. Here, the competitors line up along the US/Mexico border in maquiladoras where the race to the bottom is intense. NAFTA hasn't delivered the prosperity it promised it would. After ten years, Mexico is still a place for cheap production, where the right to an honest living and clean environment were tossed out the window alongside the peso. Once Mexico is confronted with the competition of almost two dozen countries starving for the corporate buck, the bottom they're racing to will suddenly drop further.

Our PM's naïve version of free trade envisions dealings where no one takes advantage of anyone. Either our PM has been watching too many episodes of The Smurfs, or he's become detached from reality. Ignoring softwood lumber issues is one thing, but ignoring historical precedent is quite another.

Since the early 20th century, start-ing with the Monroe Doctrine, the United States has had its greasy hands all over the rest of the Americas. Though much of US involvement is classified, supporting anti-socialist leaders and making the

western hemisphere safe for capitalism have been common goals in the Americas. Salvador Allende would attest to this, but he died because America couldn't respect rules regarding Chile's right to self-determination. Current softwood lumber issues have shown that America doesn't want to follow NAFTA's rules either. If Paul Martin thinks the US can be trusted with FTAA rules, he's deluding

Propping up the Americas with free trade would be like pimping out the exterior of a 1982 Ford Escort: tinted windows, a new exhaust system and a pumping stereo with a Pioneer decal on the back window will do nothing to hide the fading engine. These nations need a major overhaul—an overhaul that should be done by their own citizens. We here in North America don't know what life is like, or has been like, in Haiti, or El Salvador or Guatemala We have no business trying to influence the self-determination that has so far eluded many of these countries because of Western greed

I won't deny that I enjoy the benefits of free trade daily. It could be a great thing if people followed the rules. But in a world where big corporations have as much money as some countries, breaking rules is easily done. Mexico is no poster child for free trade. The rest of Latin and South America will follow the same path unless, for once, lessons from history are heeded-but hev, we all know that won't happen.

## **SPORTS**

### Huskies send football Bears into hibernation

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI

When the CIS football season kicked off four months ago, the only real question was where the Hardy Cup game would be played: Edmonton or Saskatoon, For, as good as Canada West football is, the Alberta Golden Bears and Saskatchewan Huskies were the clear powers in the conference heading into the season. Four months later, they stood toe-to-toe with the Canada West championship on the line.

Unfortunately for the fourth-ranked Bears,

Unfortunately for the fourth-ranked Bears, they left the field empty-handed for the third consecutive year, 30–17 losers in the Hardy Cup final. Their opponents—and the second-best team in the nation—the Saskatchewan Huskies, having brought the Bears' season to an end, earned a second straight Hardy Cup triumph that was delayed only by a minor disagreement over the coin toss that started the game.

"It's good that we end up having [the Hardy Cup] as a goal, but now we want to be better than just making it there, so losing again is frustrating," said Bears head coach Jerry Friesen. "We had everybody healthy this year, so the horses that got us there through the season were ready to go, and that maybe made our expectations were higher [this year]."

The Bears' performance in the Canada West final was a fitting end to a season that saw them unable to play a complete game, or find an offensive groove, until last weekends' win against Manitoba. The Bears' faults were exposed and skillfully exploited by a Fluskies team that boasted 15 players in their final two years of CEI eligibility who held the Alberta offence in check for most of the game.

Except for a few plays in which they managed to put some points on the board, quarterback Darryl Salmon—playing in his final CIS game—and the Bears were unable to answer the enigma that was the Huskies defence. In a performance as erratic as the offence has been this year, Salmon went 14 for 18 in the first half and then fizzled, as he threw two interceptions to smiff out notable drives and only managed to complete four passes in the second half.

"In the first half he was terrific," said Friesen, who didn't point solely at Salmon for the team's shortcomings. Coming out in the second half, we may have had a few more challenges. I'm not sure we would have done anything differently, but we just may not have executed as well as we wanted to. We've got a good running game and [in the second half] it was time for Jarred Winkel to carry



THIS LITTLE BEAR HAD NONE For the third consecutive season, the Bears fell in the Hardy Cup Final. They dropped a 30–17 decision to the Huskies

the load, and that's the way it was planned."

While the lifelessness on offence was far from a surprise given the team's track record this season, the usually unyielding Bears defence was picked apart with ease by Saskatchewan's veteran quarterback Steve Bilan.

Backed by an offensive line that provided him ample time to make decisions, Blan torched the Bears for 384 yards, and together with running back David Stevens—the Canada West nominee for the Hec Crighton Trophy—hung 611 yards and two touchdowns on Alberta's defenders.

"If you take away three big plays from

Saskatchewan that were worth about 160 yards, the performance from our defence wasn't anything out of the ordinary," said Friesen. "Our game plan was that we would rush [the quarterback] with three guys, so we lnew it was going to be a long afternoon and [the Bears defensive line] did a really good Job. Were they out-matched? Only because it was five against

In the end, the game clearly answered the question of which team was better, as Saskatchewan outplayed the Bears in every facet of the game, and overcame atrocious field conditions to win. However, next season, the best in Canada West will be less clear-cut, as the Huskies will lose major parts of their lineup and the Bears will say goodbye to a handful of their important veterans. Salmon and standout receiver Andrew Ginther are two notables who have used up their CIS eligibility, while all-star linebacker David Lowry will likely be roaming the field with the BC Lions in the CFL next year.

The Huskies victory has landed them a host-

The Huskies victory has landed them a hosting role for another weekend, as they'll face the reigning Vanier Cup champs, the University of Laval Rouge et Or Saturday at 1pm on TSN.

### Pandas soccer squad falls to McGill, finish fifth as nationals hosts

PAUL OWEN
CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Writers of Destruction

After a number of big wins over powerhouse teams during the regular season, the Pandas soccer team's luck ran out when they needed it the most.

The young, upstart team that had previously bested a then-first place Manitoba squad, played the CamWest champion Calgary Dinos to a draw twice and topped the eventual CIS champion Victoria Vikes twice during the regular season couldn't get past the Quebec Student Sports Federation (SSSF) champion MoGill Martles in the opening game of the national tournament they played host to this past weekend, as they dropped a 2-0 decision to McGill BatThursday.

As the hosts of this year's CIS national women's soccer championships, the Pandas knew they'd be competing when they started their season. The Pandas put the knowledge of their automatic birth on the back burner, though, said first-year midfielder Jackie Smith.

"We just wanted to prove to people that we deserved to be there, even though we didn't qualify. We didn't want people to think that since we made it because we were hosting, that we'd be a walkover," she said on the team's approach to the tournament. "And I think we proved to a lot of teams that we belonged."

Smith and her teammates took the loss to McGill hard, as their hopes of a top-four placing at the tournament were dashed.

"Oh my God, it was devastating. I don't ever want to feel like that again," she said. "It sucked, because we knew we could compete with [McGill] and we knew we probably should have beaten them. We couldn't finish our shots; we had no luck on our side and they [were able to] finish and we didn't. We controlled the game, and you could see that we were the better team, so it was firustrating that we came out losing."

The shutout loss left the young, upstart team with a bitter taste in their mouths, which the Pandas used as motivation in winning their remaining two games, a 3–1 win over York and a 6–0 thrashing of St Francis Xavier.

"Our team has a lot of character. We knew we

"Our team has a lot of character. We knew we couldn't do better than fifth or sixth [after losing to McGill], so we decided we might as well do the best we can; finishing eighth would be the worst. Our team hates losing—we're really competitive—so we just bounced back and pumped



CHALK IT UP The hosting Pandas soccer team couldn't convert against McGill during nationals

each other up for the game."

While the St FX win brought its comforts, Smith said that playing a noticeably weak team wasn't how they imagined their season wrapping up.

how they imagined their season wrapping up.

"It was frustrating. It was our last game of the
season, and as much as you like beating teams five

or six nothing, while you're playing you're thinking, 'Wow, I wish we were playing a better team, so we could actually have a game against them.'

"I think that game really proved the point that Canada West is a lot stronger than the eastern conferences." 10 SPORTS tuesday, 15 november, 2005



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GREEN JERSEYS GONE WILD The Pandas hockey team got a scare on their home-ice this weekend from the Huskies.

### Puck Pandas pass home winning-streak test

JAKE TROUGHTON

The Pandas hockey team kept its fiveyear-plus home unbeaten streak alive wer the weekend, but thanks to the efforts of Saskatchewan Huskies goaltender Erin McKay, they cut it a lot closer than usual

For the second straight week, the Pandas (6-1-1) had to come from behind to force overtime on Friday, despite severely outshooting their opposition. Unlike the previous week in Vancouver, though, they didn't have to settle for a tie, as forward Tarvn Barry fired a rebound past McKay to secure a 3-2 win, the first of two wins in a weekend sweep of the Huskies (1-5-2).

Alberta outshot the Huskies 42-9 in Friday's win, including 37-9 in regulation time, but McKay's stellar play not only kept her team in the game, but gave them a chance to win after the Huskies took a 2-0 lead in the

However, the offensive prowess of Pandas forward Tarin Podloski finally

roved able to crack McKay's shields at the end of the period. After creating most of the Pandas' scoring chances in the early stages of the game, she scored unassisted with 1:07 left in the second to break the shutout, then assisted on Danielle Sorensen's goal just 52 seconds later to tie the game up heading

"[Podloski] has the ability to control games, and she showed that [Friday]." said Pandas head coach Howie Draper. "She pulled us all up to her level."

I knew we could beat her," said Podloski. "We just had to go to the net. That was the difference: when they scored their goals, they went to the net, and that's why they scored. When we came around and did the same thing, we put it in.

McKay continued her strong performance in the third, stopping all 15 Pandas shots and helping kill nearly consecutive penalties late in the game It took Barry snagging the rebound off a great save on Podloski in overtime to beat McKay again.

'She's an awesome goalie, and we

knew that coming in," said Draper. "But we had a couple good shots on her, a couple of posts in the first period that, if they'd been turned into goals, it would have been a different story. Saturday night's game proved to be

strong evidence for that theory. While the Pandas didn't score on the power play on Friday, the next night their special teams clicked early and often. Centre Jen Newton scored just 2:14 into the game, the first of four power play markers in a 5-1 Pandas win. The early goal gave the Pandas momentum and seemed to keep McKay from finding the groove she had the previous night

"The power play helped us," said Pandas assistant coach Marc Ward. "It's always nice when you can get power play goals, because that momentum carries into five-on-five play. ... [Friday] we were trying to be too cute with the puck; [Saturday], we just made a few passes and found the lane."

The Pandas will be back in action at home in two week's time against the Manitoba Bisons (4-2-2).

### Vikes soccer tops favourite Ottawa for gold

If Tracy David didn't have a place in her heart for the University of Alberta before this weekend, she probably does now. Currently, she's the head coach of the Victoria Vikes women's soccer team, but she held that same position with the Pandas from 1985 2000. With Alberta, she won national championships in 1989 and 1997, and on Sunday afternoon at Foote Field, she garnered a third, as her Vikes beat the University of Ottawa 3-0 to claim the 2005 CIS gold medal.

"I'm thrilled to bits-I'm very proud of our team's performance here today, and we feel really great," David said. "I think this was the best performance we've had all year. We came to this tournament with a goal in mind; win the national championship, and we never lost our focus

The weather was not as balmy as the west-coast athletes are used to, but that was the last thing on their minds as the clock hit the 90-minute mark and the Vikes rushed onto the field in Liz Hansen opened the scoring

for Victoria in the 27th minute on an unassisted goal, shortly after two missed corner kicks. CIS MVP Amelie

Mercier then added a goal in the 36th minute off of an Amy Thorogood pass to put the Vikes up by two. Ottawa came back and gave Victoria a run in the second half, but in the 84th minute Janelle Smith sealed the deal for Victoria with her late-game goal.

Fourth-year Vikes midfielder Carey Gustafson was selected as MVP for the gold-medal game, as well as for the whole tournament. After the medals were presented, she was one of many excited Victoria players.

"[This is] unbelievable! Well, I shouldn't say unbelievable, because we've been preparing for this momen for years now" she said "All the hard work that we've put into soccer finally is worth it."

"I'm really excited right now," added Mercier. "I feel like we worked really hard all season, and this was our goal from the beginning, so it's really nice to achieve what we set out for

For Mercier, this was her last year of eligibility in CIS, but she said that the past five years were an amazing experience. T've made the most amazing friends

of my life through the program in Victoria," Mercier said. "Winning the national championship is a great way

to cap off five years of hard work." Despite the loss, Ottawa head coach lar mood after the medal pre tion. When asked what his thoughts were on the game, he jokingly asked, "What game?" Kidding aside though, Johnson did commend Victoria on the strength of their play in the gold-

"U Vic was a deserving winner. They played well throughout the whole game and we played well in parts," he said. "We had times when we were really competitive but we weren't able to capitalize on their mistakes-they killed us early in the game.

His Gee-Gees will head back to the nations capital with silver medals in tow, but nevertheless Johnson was pleased with the tournament and the season his team had this year. Sunday's oss was the first time the Ottawa club had been defeated all season

"I enjoyed the tournament overall: we got ourselves into the gold medal game, so you couldn't ask for much more," he said. "The season was the most important thing for me, not just the medal, and I think it's a reflection of how well this team got along as a

McGill won the bronze medal Sunday afternoon, while fourth through sixth place went to Calgary, Alberta and St Francis Xavier, respectively



WHAT WENT WRONG? Second year Pandas point guard Ashley Wigg goes to the hoop against the Calgary Dinos.

### Pandas hoops take a trip back to jr high

ROBIN COLLUM

If the Pandas basketball team thought they'd be getting two easy victories this weekend against the previously winless University of Calgary Dinos, they were saidy mistaken. Fighting an energetic Calgary opposition, the Pandas didn't seem to be able to muster the necessary effort to win, as they dropped Friday's game "96, and followed that up with a 72–49 loss on Saturday night.

Pandas head coach Trix Baker was visibly upset with her team's play both nights. Their Friday shooting percent-

inguis. Intel Privary shooting peteriaage was only 27.3 per cent.
"I'm embarrassed," she said after the loss. "That's the worst that I've ever seen us play. I can handle losing, but not like that. We sho tadly, we defended badly, we didn't run, we didn't do anything. We shot 5-27 in the second half—that's worse than a junior high team."

planor high team.

Baker's hopes for what has become
the standard Saturday night Pandas
bounce back game were trounced,
thanks to continued offensive inneficiency. Alberts astred out strong, efficiency, allows and went into the break
deadlocked at 34 with the Dinos. The
effect of the game was much more of
a struggle, however, and saw the
Pandas put up a meage 15 points in
the second half, while shooting 25.8
per cent from the field.

"It was a decent first half, but we couldn't hit a shot if our lives depended on it in the second half." Baker said about Saturday's game. "We had good looks, but didn't make them, and then people got tentative and didn't even want to shoot. It was ugly again."

"That's the worst that I've ever seen us play. I can handle losing, but not like that. We shot badly, we defended badly, we didn't run, we didn't do anything. We shot 5–27 in the second half—that's worse than a junior high team."

TRIX BAKER PANDAS HEAD COACH

Baker blamed both nights' results on a lack of effort from her team. "They played with absolutely no

"They played with absolutely no class or work ethic at all," she said on Friday. "I can't think of one player who came to play tonight.

"I don't know if we thought we were just going to cruise in here and beat them because they were 0-4, but they wanted every ball much more intensely than we did," said Baker about the Dinos. "They ran the floor harder, they finished better, they rebounded better."

U of C's head coach Shawnee Harle, on the other hand, was pleased with her team's performance, having lost to both UBC and Saskatchewan the past two weeks.

"I was very happy with our team's effort. I thought that we played very tough, particularly Friday," she said on Saturday. "I didn't think our offence was great, [but] our defence stood solid for us both nights.

"These were pivotal games for us. If we didn't win this weekend, we'd be 0-6," Harle said. "Now we're 2-4, and that sounds a whole lot different than 0-6."

Like Baker, Harle emphasized the role of effort in determining a game's result.

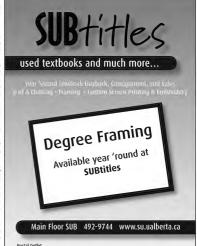
"I tried to get across to the girls a sense of urgency. We've got a lot of young players on our team, and they still don't know what it takes to compete at this level; this is the toughest league in the country, and every night is a war. I think we came out and battled both nights."

The Pandas are on the road next weekend to Vancouver, British Columbia, where they'll face the reigning CIS Women's champion Simon Fraser University Clan. Their next home game won't come until early January, when they host the University of Winnipeg, last year's CIS silver medallizer.

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### Basketball Bears get much-needed sweep over rival Dinos

PAUL OWEN

While some teams wilt under expectations in sports, others thrive on it. The Golden Bears and Calgary Dinos basketball squads definitely fit the latter, as they delivered another highquality serving of hardcourt dramatics this weekend in the Main Gym.

The Bears came back from a twelvepoint second half deficit to post a 90-88 victory in overtime against the Calgary Dinos Friday night, then held off a similar Calgary comeback attempt on Saturday to prevail 80-77. The wins brought Alberta (3-3) to 500 for the first time this season.

Hifth-year Dinos guard Whit Hornsberger drilled a long three-pointer at the overtime buzzer that would have given the Dinos (0+4) a victory, but it was ruled that the victory as late and the game was given to the Bears, which frustrated Calgary head coach Dan Vanhooren, who felt his team was the victim of a clock malfunction.

"Honestly, Ithink our guys deserved that win. We came out and we took it to them; our kids played pretry hard," he said after Friday's game. "With three seconds left, we run a great play, the ball gets in all the way to where we need it to go; that's definitely not three seconds off the dock, and I can't believe that that took place."

Dean Whalen led the Alberra attack

with 26 points—the last two of which came off free throws to give Alberta the lead with 3.2 seconds left in overtime including an impressive exchange of lengthy jumpers with Hornsberger.

"We love that—we played against each other back in 2001 at the under-19 Summer Games, and it was the same thing then; that's where the rivalry started. It's just fun to be able to go out and play basketball like that and go at each other," he said of their rivalry.

Whalen also had a steal off a broken Calgary inbound that set up Phil Sudol for the game-tying free throw that sent the game into overtime. Free throw's were key for the Bears heading into the game, according to head coach Don Horwood, in expectation of a hard-fought weekend.

"Honestly, I think our guys deserved that win. We came out and we took it to them; our kids played pretty hard. With three seconds left, we run a great play, the ball gets in all the way to where we need it to go; that's definitely not three seconds off the clock, and I can't beleive that that took place."

DAN VANHOOREN, DINOS HEAD COACH ON FRIDAY'S GAME

"In close ball games, foul shooting is big, because when the games are close, people are going to foul you," he said. "We've really worked on it the last two weeks, and these guys have run a lot of suicides for missing free throws. We put some pressure on them, and tonight it worked."



BACK ON EVEN GROUND Tyson Jones (pictured) and the Bears won in dramatic fashion on Friday and Saturday night

The Bears found themselves without fifth-year post Phil Sudol for Saturday's game thanks to a nagging knee injury, but Richard Bates and Jeff Stork filled in for the Canada West all-star, and Scott Gordon stepped up, leading the team with 18 points and eleven rebounds. "We didn't miss [Sudol] Cobviously

"We didn't miss [Sudol]. Obviously we want him back, but as long as he has knee problems we'll have to play some other guys. I thought [Bates and Stork] stepped up and worked really hard, and I was pleased about that," said Horwood.

Less pleasing to the coach was his team blowing a lead of twelve in the game's final minutes. Horwood was ejected with his second technical foul in the waning moments, and the resulting free throws allowed Calgary to cut the deficit to five.

The Dinos got within one, but fifthyear guard Chris Wright missed what would have been the game-tying free throw and Whalen would sink two more to give the Bears a three-point lead with only 18 seconds remaining. Calgary's final Jay was broken up by a tough Bears defence, and Lindsay Thouret's attempt to tie for the Dinos was blocked by Tyson Jones. Vanhooren thought his Dinos were overwhelmed. "We had nobody who really wanted to take that shot. Lindsay is our best shooter on the perimeter and Hornsberger, obviously, is a fifth-year guy, but they were going to close out on him and be tight on him, and so we needed to have Lindsay or [Brian] Finniss want to shoot," he explained.

For Horwood, the victory was bitter

"[Jones] missed free throws; they were daggers to put in their heart and he let them get back into it because he missed. It was a tough win, and it didn't need to be," he said. "But, it's a hell of a lot better than losing."

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Bill Buxton will deliver the 2005 Ingenuity Lectures. Time Magazine named him one of the top five designers in Canada, The Hollywood Reporter named him one of the 10 most influential innovators in Hollywood, and in 2003, the company was recognized with an Oscar for its contribution to moviequality animation software.

### 2005 Ingenuity Lecturer: Bill Buxton

He is a designer and a researcher concerned with human aspects of technology. Buxton has always maintained a strong connection to both pure research and applied work. He was Chief Scientist of Alias | Wavefront (an SGI company) until 2002. He has had a long association as a consulting research scientist with Xerox PARC and chaired a panel to advise the premier of Ontario on developing long-term policy to foster innovation. He works with Bruce Mau Design, of Toronto, where he acts as Chief Scientist and is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Toronto.

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### Rapid Fire's improv more than monkey business



#### Rapid Fire Theatre

Theatre Sports: Fridays at 11pm Chimprov: Saturdays at 11pm w.ranidfiretheatre.com

AMANDA ASH

Edmonton's Rapid Fire Theatre has the uncanny ability to strike smiles on the gloomiest of faces. By mixing over-the-top stage antics with farcical skits the comedic players continually provide amusing performances to sold-out crowds at the Varscona Theatre. However, although the quick-witted actors and actresses appear to be naturally gifted with hilarious comebacks and energetic sl gans, there's more to the dramatic funny business than the endless parade of jokes.

According to Rapid Fire Theatre's artistic direc tor Chris Craddock, improvised acting is a talent that must be acquired through training and practice, just like any other skill. But once the flair for spontaneity down pat, you'll also be ready to face whatever unexpected situations the real world bestows upon you. While you might not want to plan on springing a spontaneous improve skit on your boss, Craddock can recount at least one time when having a wealth of improvisational experience has helped him out during a few sticky heatre moments in the past.

"I was at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and on opening night, all of the lights went out, and there was no one in the audience except reviewers and various well-known critics. Needless to say, I made up a few lines, kept a cool head, and the show went on. Pretty soon, the lights came on again, and everything was fine. We got lots of good reviews, too, and perhaps slightly improved by the fact that I was cool under fire. How's that for an answer? It's true, too. I didn't make it up!'

Okay, maybe, for improvisational gurus like Craddock, answering interview questions and searching for factual memories can take a little more effort nowadays than creatively conjuring up some random stories. But even though Craddocka recruit from the professional theatre community and a hard core "adrenaline junkie"—has acquired an undying love for fabricating witty tales, he's also

to Rapid Fire's enlightening powers

"Improv can give you a variety of skills. For one, I think it's very helpful for a writer, especially a creative writer, because you're constantly thinking on your feet in terms of motive," Craddock explains. "Improv brings you to accept your own inspiration. When you're up onstage, you have to make a crazy amount of choices with no time to edit vourself, so in a way it can train you be a better

And so, behind those ridiculously funny scenes. a lot of hard work does actually 90 into improv. despite the fact that what they do on stage is noth ing they've ever rehearsed. According to Craddock, in order to be reimbursed with creative capacities such as writing, the Rapid Fire players practice in a manner similar to a sports team. Their rehearsals typically consist of working on fundamental staging techniques like blocking, as well as some team

bonding courtesy of alcoholic beverages.

"We drink less than rock stars, but more than violinists," Craddock jokingly clarifies.

But aside from their intense workshop training and their innate senses of humour, the guys and gals of Rapid Fire Theatre would be real bores without the help of everyone who decides to come out for a night of improv

"The audience plays a big part," says Craddock '[Getting the audience involved] isn't only more un, but it also technically proves that, without a doubt, we're making this up on the spot, since the inspiration is coming straight from them. A couple of years ago, we did a show at [international improv tournament] Improvaganza and a guy went up to the box office demanding his money back. He said that there was no way we could have improvised our scene, and that it must have been written down and rehearsed. He didn't believe us, and he wanted his money back, so we paid him cheerfully because it was such a nice compliment.

So whether you want to check out their smaller, finely tuned Chimprov troupes or the audience friendly party shows also known as Theatresports. you're sure to receive a genuinely entertaining evening by some clever performers. And feel free to compliment their sidesplitting gags after the show-that is, by shaking their hand, not by returning your ticket.

### Derailed crashes off tracks

Directed by Mikael Håfström Starring Clive Owen, Jennifer Aniston and Vincent Cassel Now playing

Arts & Entertainment Writer

There's this little office, deep in the heart of Hollywood, where top-notch producers, directors and writers sit with a machine known as "the movie plot generator." They dump overused and common plot elements into this extraordinary device and out pops a fully formed, ready-to-use movie script. They get a decent director to make sure the film flows smoothly and a couple bankable stars to lure in an audience and, after launching an impressive advertising campaign, they sit back and watch their pockets fill up with cash

Alright, that's probably not how it happens, but it's just as logical as the real explanation of how movies like Derailed wind up being made The story is fairly generic and resembles some-

thing you swear you've seen before. Charles Shine (Clive Owen) is your standard family man who works for an advertising agency. His daughter has an extreme case of diabetes, resulting in him and his wife having squirreled away as much money as they can afford in order to save for some yet to-be-approved drug that could greatly improve her quality of life. After missing his regular commuter train one morning, Charles is take an alternative one to work, which allows for banker (Jennifer Aniston). The attraction between the two quickly escalates to the point where they secure a hotel room to begin an affair, but all is halted when a violent man (Vincent Cassel) breaks into their room and terrorizes them at gunpoint before taking off with their wallets. Unable to go to the police, they put the incident behind the and carry on with their daily lives. However, a month later Charles receives a phone call from the intruder, blackmailing him for the money saved for his daughter. This sets his life off track and the

As sexy and action-packed as this story sounds, however, it hardly strays from its incredibly average plot and manages to play out every cliché a film about blackmail has to offer. Clive Owen does a decent enough job of making you feel sorry for Charles and the situation he's found himself in, but with little character development and him making somewhat idiotic choices, you er really care that much how things turn out for him. While Jennifer Aniston surprisingly doesn't reprise her role as Rachel Green, she also doesn't really manage to play anything at all. Her role demands that she be charismatic and alluring, but, to be blunt, she just isn't. The one who does seem to play his part the best is Vincent Cassel. He manages to succeed at all the different facets of his character, but his performance might not have seemed like such a feat had Owen and Aniston not appeared so wooden every time the camera was

The film manages not just to be bland, but



rating as well. In our CSI-loving society it's hard to believe that Charles can get away with all the lies that he tells to cover everything up. He parely wipes his fingerprints off objects and gives the police some extremely shady and unsupported alibis. At the same time, the movie is also highly predictable. By the time the big twists and turn in the plot transpire, you're wondering why it has taken so long to get to the point.

chances are you've already seen Derailed. Nothing

in the film is extremely original and it all seems like something you've seen before, only with dif-ferent actors in a slightly different setting. After the movie ends, you can't really recall specific lines or particular details, simply because nothing in the film jumps out as all that memorable.

Derailed comes across as a painfully standard production, and while there might not be actu-ally be a "movie plot generator," the "Hollywood Machine" still managed to do a number on this

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### 50 Cent about to Get Rich

Get Rich or Die Tryin' wins by painting intimate portrait of 50

Get Rich or Die Tryin'

Directed by Jim Sheridan Starring Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson, Adewale Alkinnuoye-Agbaje and Joy Bryant Now Playing

PATRICK ROSS

The one thing everyone is thinking about 50 Cent's movie, Get Rich or Die Tryin', is how it will compare to labelmate Eminem's crack at the movies 8 Mile. To say that 50 Cent's feature film debut holds no similarity to his mentor Eminem's feature film debut would be entirely misleading. That being said, however, the differences between the two-with the obvious exception of the films' semi-autobiographical e-are in fact more numerous than the

Get Rich is likely to be given credit for. Regardless of whether or not he continues his foray into film-a hit movie isn't the deciding factor; Eminem chose not to despite having tre-mendous success with 8 Mile-50 has defied his critics, and turned in a performance that shows he has the chops for another film. Like his labelmate, 50 comes out with a surprisingly

intense and gritty presentation in Get Rich. The film revolves around Young Caesar, an orphaned rapper who, at a very young age, follows his mother's footprints into a life of crime. It begins, unsurprisingly, with the reenacting of 50's real life encounter with the business end of nine bullets. The bulk of what follows is essentially played out as Young Caesar's life flashing before his eyes. The film then quickly sets the table for everything that is to come with the murder of Caesar's mother, herself a hardnosed crack dealer.

Anger and pride quickly drive Caesar to a life of crime. He proves extremely adept at his chosen lifestyle, turning the heads of his bosses, and earning their respect—as well as the envy and animosity of his peers. In time, mus becomes his outlet of choice, but ultimately drives him toward a head-on confrontation with rival gangsters.

It's fitting that 50's debut film shares its name with his major-label debut album, as the city of New York depicted in the film will be familiar to those who have listened to much of 50's music. The setting for his movie-one of the film's most appealing features—ignores the glamorous downtown scenes or even the sketchy clubs ubiquitous in mob flicks. Instead, Get Rich weaves a tale of a life lived on the edge and in the streets, fighting for survival in a what closest fits the description of a "concrete jungle.

The film manages to successfully expose an emotional side of the rapper, with 50's voiceovers-which are ironically the weak point in 50's dramatic armorrevealling his character's poetic soul

the characters in Get Rich will seem eerily similar to real-life stars. Almost all of 50's reallife rivals are represented in the film: Majestic (Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje) simultaneously casts the shadow of not only real-life gang boss Primo, but also Murder Inc chairman Irv Gotti. Majestic's pet rapper, Dangerous (Michael Miller) seems oddly reminiscent of 50's long-time rival

The film manages to successfully expose an emotional side of the rapper, with 50's voiceovers—which are ironically the weak point in 50's dramatic armor-revealling his character's poetic soul. Despite these emotional asides, the film features violence throughout, often in an ever-escalating fashion. While the film is hardly apologetic about this, it doesn't skimp on the con nces of such violent acts, hardly glorifying it, further making what is billed as a semi-autobiographical story closer to real life than fiction.

50 proves himself to be a surprisingly tal-ented actor in the course of this film, and with an exceptionally talented supporting cast to back up the story, 50 Cent's expanding empire might now include feature films. Indeed, Get Rich or Die Tryin' will likely help the already rich 50 get even richer.



A BEAUTIFUL THE

### 30Seconds to Mars

A Beautiful Lie Virgin Records www.30secondstomars.com

ERIN FRASER inment Writer

It would be easy to dismiss Hollywood actor Jared Leto's band, 30 Seconds to Mars, as a vehicle for him to attempt

to regain the heartthrob status he once held in the mid '90s, but that doesn't seem to be the case. The band seems to do little—if anything at all—to capitalize on their lead singer's fame, but it's unfortunately still the one thing most people know about 30 Seconds to Mars. It's unfortunate because, given the negative stigma attached to actors trying to be rock stars, this decent band will be scrutinized more often than they deserve

The album is full of relatively well-crafted synth-rock ballads, and is far from a disappointing disc Unfortunately, the dozen tracks included on A Beautiful Lie all seem a little too safe; it would have been nice to hear something more daring and bold from a band that, while perhaps more under the watching eye of critics, has the benefit of free publicity. The potential for more interesting and adventurous songs is there, but not

Despite this, the album's downfall is its lyrics. Every song reeks of teen-age heartbreak and self-discovery. Leto can sing, but he has an annoy ing tendency to endlessly repeat what one can only assume to be his favourite lines from each song—an act that only serves to amplify the mediocrity of the lyrics themselves. But at least the misunderstood teenagers who will end up listening to this album will have something to write with big black markers on their army surplus knapsacks.

A Beautiful Lie isn't a bad alb and 30 Seconds to Mars isn't a bad band, either. But with this al there are jus too many factors holding it back to allow for much success





NARC! NARC! Just kidding. He's actually one part of the Calgary fourpiece punk band the Fake Cops. Frontman Jon Hopkins and the rest of the the squad opened up for Edmonton's Vertical Struts last Thursday at the Sidetrack Café



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### Kiss Kiss Bang Bang: a good good action-comedy

#### Kiss Kiss Bang Bang

Directed by Shane Black Starring Robert Downey Jr, Val Kilmer and Michelle Monaghan Now playing

JONN KMECH

With movie sales slumping, rubberstamping standard scripts that, while not particularly inventive, will at least be winners at the box office has seemingly replaced the search for new ideas in Hollywood. With studios playing it safe and making movies they know will be hits, at least financially if not critically, sequels and uninspired productions flood the theatres, resulting in a disappointing lack of shows worth spending \$12 to see. Thankfully, every so often, films come out that take chances and simply aim for assured success at the box office, making it entirely worth your money to go see. Kiss Kiss Bang Bang is a per-

fect example

Robert Downey Jr stars as Harry Lockhart, a petty crook who, while running from the police, accidentally takes part in a Hollywood audition where he bumbles his way to a part in movie as a detective. Thrust into the Hollywood high-life, the film takes off when Lockhart becomes paired with the film's law-enforcement consultant, the tough-talking and openly homosexual private investigator, Gay Perry (Val Kilmer). The pair begins to investigate a seemingly banal case that suddenly turns from stakeout to murder mystery. A woman from Harry's past mistakes him as an actual we when her sister is killed and, as killings continue to occur around him, Harry gets caught up in a web of mystery and crime, where, despite his complete lack of skill and knowledge, he must solve the crimes and get the oirl

As you can probably tell from some of the clichés in the plot details, the film pays homage to 1950s spy novels. From the opening sequence on, the movie cozes film nori and Dick Tracy-sple mystery, But Kiss Kiss Bang Bang cannot be categorized that easily. The film jumps between being an action-adventure, a crime drama and also a mystery. It's a combination that could be ripe for slapatick comedy and easy jokes, but the humour in Kiss Kiss Bang Bang is smart and carefully worked into the script, creating one of the most irreverent and intriguing comedies of late.

First-time director Shane Blackcreator of the Lethal Weapon fran--is accustomed to action films, but has outdone himself considering his new director status. It's obvious while watching the film that Black was passionate about making this movie, and this rubs off on the audience. The script, also written by Black, is expertly penned, and the dry, black comedy that is employed here makes for some truly hysterical moments. There aren't many movies where genital-shocking torture scenes and shooting someone execution-style can make the crowd erupt in laughter, but it's done successfully here.

Robert Downey Jr proves once again that he's an excellent actor while playing the clumsy Harry Lockhart, where his versatility, range of emotion and his talent for deadpan humour work well. As the film's narrator, the audience gets a double



serving of Downey when he cuts in every so often to make a snide comment or even send-up one of the spy clichés that the film uses—an element that not only keeps the audience laughing, but also prevents the plot from lagging.

laughing, but also prevents the plot from lagging.

The standout performance, however, is Killmer's, who goes completely over the top as Gay Perry. Taking nearly every gay stereotype you can imagine and combining it with the tough-guy persona of a private dick, Gay Perry proves to be a character worthy of a spin-off. Moments between the polar opposite characters of Downy Jr and Kilmer make for the funniest moments, not only of this film, but of most films in recent memory.

There are a few movies that have so many positive aspects that they should not only get a sequel, but deserve and cernant one. Aiss sax Bang Bang turns out to be one of them. These actors work so well together, and Black's writing is so asture, it would be a shame not to continue exploring Kiss Kiss Bang Bang's premise. It's not the type of movie that's going to bring home Oscars, but given the films that usually get passed off as comedy, Kiss Kiss Bang Bang is one movie that will blow you away.

YOUR GROUP PLAN FOR STUDENT HEALTH



## Important message for students covered by the GSA Health & Dental Plan last year

As a graduate student at the University of Alberta registered full-time in the Fall Term, including on-campus, off-campus and international students, you're covered by the GSA Health & Dental Plan.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING CLAIMS FROM LAST YEAR (for students covered in 2004-2005) - All health and/or dental claims incurred on or before August 31, 2005 (for the 2004-05 policy year) must be received by the insurance company (Sun Life) by November 30, 2005.

In order to ensure that studentcare.net/works can transfer your claims by the deadline, they must be dropped off at the GSA Office **no later than Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2005.** If you're mailing claims directly to the insurance company, please leave adequate time for delivery. The address for Sun Life is recorded on the back of all claim forms. Claims received after the deadline will not be reimbursed.

Claim forms are available at www.studentcare.net.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karma Tashi Ling Tibetan Buddhist Centre, Lama Ani Kunsang resident teacher, invites students and staff to Buddhist meditation practice Weds 7pm, 10502 70 Ave, 633-6157. Red Deer College in Kenya. 1–30 May, 2006. Maasai Mara Tsavo National Park, Indian Ocean Coast, Principles of ecology and/or indigenous and cultural minorities in the modern world. urdc.ab.ca.(403)342-3504

Want to study MEDICINE in Europe? www medical-school.ca and canadmin@medicalschool ca

#### EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

Les Saisons Lingerie in West Edmonton Mall is hiring permanent full- and part-time sales positions. This position requires individuals who are hardworking and outgoing. Hours are flexible and the wage is hourly plus commission. Please call or fax your resumé to Nicole at 444-4992.

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Edmonton YMCA child care services now hiring PT child care programmers for T/Th shifts (3–6/2–6). South locations. Competative salary. Free YMCA membership. No experience required. Call 429-5705 for nore information.

ons Lingerie in West Edmonton Mall is looking for a long-term reliable, hardworking and outgoing University student. The position is full-time or part-time with immediate start date and has flexiable hours. If this sounds like you, drop off your resumé or call Nicole at 444-4992

PermP/Twkend delivery driver/helper needed. Busy downtown ethnic grocery store. Must have clean class 5 drivers license. Fax resumé

#### EMPLOYMENT - TEMPORARY

APIRG is seeking a Chief Returning Officer (CRO). Dates of employment are 1 Dec, 2005 to 1 Apr. 2006. A \$1000 honorarium will be ided The CRO must be all lof A unders provided. The CRO must be a U of A undergrad who has not opted out of the APIRG fee. Complete job description at www.apirg. org. Submit letter of interest and resume to apirg@ualberta.ca by 5pm, Fri 18 Nov.

#### PERSONALS

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Ryan,can'twaittosee you again on the 151. Please call actor/singer Michael 455-3202, engineer. Are you bored? Looking for edifying reading material? Come check out our blog. You get to see the Gateway Entertainment Editor wearing a retarded helmet. The address for our unofficial blog is sadnewspaper.blogspot.com.

### **EVENT-O-TRON 3000**

ERSC, ECOS, ECSA present a gu lecture by Environment Minister Guy Boutilier on Tuesday, 15 November at 4:30pm in ETLC 1 007. Disagree with how the Province takes care of the environment? Ask the Environment Minister about it! Environment Minister Guy Boutilier has been a major player in determining the environmental future of Alberta as chair of the Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection, Cabinet Committee on

### FROM THE GATEWAY **ARCHIVES**

a bomb threat from the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), a militant anima

The Public Affairs Office received phone call in the morning claiming that the ALF had planted a bomb set to explode at 2:30pm in the Humanities Centre. The Edmonton Police Service was involved, and the building was evac uated between 1pm and the 2:30pm but no bomb was discovered. The ALF, in an anonymous press release, had recently claimed responsibility for vandalizing twelve businesses in Edmonton and threatened to expand its campaign to other targets in the city.

According to Darren Thurston, presi dent of Citizens Organized for Animal Liberation, as quoted by the Edmontor Journal, the ALF was made of "small groups of vegetarians or vegans who carry out actions according to the ALF guidelines," which were to "liberate' animals from agricultural and laboratory facilities, and to "inflict economic damage" on those who "exploit

ALF groups had comitted many acts of violence throughout the world one group bombing the University of Bristol's adminstration building and another taking 1230 animals and doing \$200 000 worth of damage at the University of Arizona earlier that year

People Against Cruel Trapping, an imal rights organization in Edmonton, offered a \$1000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for the ALF's acts of vandalism in Edmonton.

#### 9 NOVEMBER, 1989

From the Gateway Archives is a semiregular feature that re-visits the various stories published in the 95-year history of the Gateway

Climate Change and the Northern Alberta Development Council. The Minister is the second of three lecturers all focusing on aspects of how science influences policy; the third speaker will be Dr. David Schindler 22 November. For more information, please contact 433-0807 (leave message).

EOT3 is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. EOT3 is usually printed in the Tuesday editions of the Gateway each week. EOT3 does not pub lish events that are weekly, on-going, or not open to the public. We only accept free events. To place an entry in EOT3, please go to www.gateway.ualberta. ca/hbk. The Gateway reserves all right to edit all entries for length and clarity

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18 COMICS tuesday, 15 november, 2005

#### TRANSGENDER TROUBLES by Marie-Annick Jean

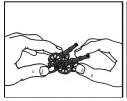








#### PICKLE FRENZY by Mike Kendrick









#### SOAP OPERA ITALIANO by Chris Jung









### TRUE GATEWAY STORIES by Scott C Bourgeois











### RENT A THUG by Jeff Martin



### VARSITY HAPPENINGS by Bill Benson













#### HALEY'S COMIX by Mike Robertson









### PEANUT & CIRCLE by Chris Krause













### **BITTEN** by Robin Sissons







### EVERYDAY OSAMA by Iris Tse & Chris O'Leary









#### BEEF WAGON by Harold Pacheco

















20 ADVERTISEMENT tuesday: 15 november, 2005

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